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Gen. H. McClelland, Top Radar Specialist

Special to the Herald Tribune stalled in the Army's tiny pursuit planes.

WASHINGTON.

Maj. Gen. Harold M. McClelland, 72, a retired Air Force officer who specialized in communications, died Friday at his home here.

He was an officer in the armed forces from 1917 to 1951, and for the past 14 years was director of communications at the Central Intelligence Agency.

Born in Tiffon, Iowa, he began his work on air communications in 1921. (In 1926 Capt. McClelland "communicated" with Babe Ruth from an airplane. He dropped a baseball from 250 feet, over Mitchel Field, and Ruth caught it in his glove.)

In the '30s he developed the first two-way radio small enough (40 pounds) to be in-

His World War II service won him his general's stars, the Legion of Merit, the rank of Commander in the Order of the British Empire and a Distinguished Service Medal with a citation that reads:

"...as Air Communications Officer, Headquarters Army Air Forces from July 1942 to August 1945, (he) supervised the Army Airways Communications System which furnished communications and navigational aids along the military air routes throughout the world. He pioneered in military electronics, analyzed the enemy's scientific research in this field and instituted radio and radar countermeasures."

After the war, Gen. McClelland continued his push for the ground controlled approach radar method of guiding aircraft to safe landings. He was the inventor of many radar and other electronic devices.

Survivors include his widow, a son, two sisters and a brother.

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